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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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SUBJECT

Insurance Organisation and Taxes in the Russian Zone

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1. After the private insurance business was liquidated in the Russian Zone, the position and functions it had previously occupied were taken over by the Land insurance institutes (Versicherungsanstalten). These are regulated by SMA Karlshorst through the head of the finance department, Maletin, and his deputy Sidnin, who determine policy. Actual administration devolves upon Colonel Koztsev, departmental head for Land insurance in the Russian Zone. Policies are forwarded for execution to Ministerialdirektor Erwin Brillike, who works directly under Henry Meier, president of the Central Administration for Finance.

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Both Meier, who lived for many years in Moscow, and Brillike, a former member of SPD, are very pro-Russian; the former is a Communist, the latter an avowed adherent of SED.

2. Karlshorst policy appears to be to profit from obligatory types of insurance by heavily increasing premiums. In fire insurance for buildings and industrial enterprises, motor vehicle insurance, and insurance against hailstorm damage, premiums are now seven to ten times normal.
3. The Russians receive eighty percent of all insurance taxes. During 1946, the Landesversicherungsanstalt of Thuringia paid the following taxes:

Insurance tax	(about) 2 million RM
Fire prevention tax (Feuerlöschsteuer)	" 4 million RM
Corporation tax	" 5 million RM
Trade tax	" 1 million RM
Total	(about) 12 million RM

Of this approximately twelve million RM, eighty percent, or approximately 9.6 million RM, went to the Russians. If this amount is considered a rough average for each of the five Versicherungsanstalten in the Russian Zone, a total of about forty-eight million RM was collected by the Russians from the state-controlled insurance business in 1946.

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